



U.S. Army Combined Arms Center  
and Fort Leavenworth

## Colonel Daniel J. Shanahan

Colonel Shanahan was born and raised in Michigan. He entered the United States Military Academy in July of 1978 and graduated as a lieutenant of armor in May 1982. Following the armor basic course and rotary wing helicopter training, he was assigned to Ft Lewis, Washington, where he served as company executive officer, flight platoon leader, and company operations officer. Following the aviation advanced course in 1986; he served as an aviation observer/controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Ft Chaffee, Arkansas for two years. COL Shanahan commanded two aviation companies and served as the battalion operations officer at Ft Drum, New York from 1989 through 1992. He attended the Army Command and General Staff School at Ft Leavenworth, Kansas in 1992/93. The next two years were spent in Atlanta at Ft McPherson, Georgia as a counterdrug specialist for the Department of Defense. In 1995 he deployed to Europe where he served as battalion executive officer and battalion operations officer. In 1996 he served as Aide-de-Camp to the Commander, US Army Forces in Europe, both in Germany and Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina. He served his last year in Germany as the Chief of Current Operations Branch, US Army Europe. COL Shanahan commanded a Combat Assault Aviation Battalion at Ft Hood, Texas from July 1998 through July 2000. In 2000/01 he served as the senior aviation trainer at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Ft Polk, Louisiana. Following duty in Louisiana, he attended the United States Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania graduating in 2002. COL Shanahan then served as Chief, Leadership Division, Human Resources Directorate, on the Army Staff in 2002/03. He returned to Fort Hood in 2003 as the Rear Detachment Commander for the 4th Infantry Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed with III Corps to Iraq as the MNC-I C3 Air in 2004. Colonel Shanahan assumed command of the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division in May 2005. The brigade was deployed in Aug-Sept 2005 to support hurricane relief efforts in Louisiana and Texas. They were also called upon to help victims of the Pakistan earthquake in late 2005 and early 2006. Colonel Shanahan returned with his brigade to Iraq in Sep 2006 in Baghdad where the brigade patrolled the skies over central Iraq during the "Surge" returning in January 2008. COL Shanahan left brigade command in Apr 2008 and now serves as the Director, Army Leader Development back at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Colonel Shanahan holds Masters Degrees in Public Administration from Central Michigan University and in Strategy from the US Army War College while participating in the Army Strategic Arts Program (ASAP). He was a distinguished graduate from the Armor Basic Course and Aviation Advanced Course. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, two Bronze Star Medals, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and Army Achievement Medal. His decorations include the Master Aviator Badge and Parachutist Badge.

